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Torrance Toggery
Si Rappaport, Prop.

BILLY WHISKERS
By FRANCES MONTGOMERY

Nick said he would tell Billy what the story of the picture was so that Billy would know what they want him to do.

"The scene am a farmhouse and yard, with a big tree in it, and under the tree am a bench. And on that air bench am a big, fat country lass. Gee, but she must weigh nigh onto three hundred pounds. Well, she am a soddin' for her lover, a big boob, who comes saunterin' in kinder bashful like, draggin' one foot behind t'other and suckin' one finger like it war a stick o' candy. But you should see his face! It am as big as the full moon, and his nose ain't no bigger'n a button, and his cheeks stick out past it like the halves of two red apples, and his eyes is as blue as china marbles, and they both stick out of his head like day was gwain to roll out his haid. They sure do!"

Story Goes On

"And the gal! Wall, she squirms around like she was on a hot griddle and didn't dare get off, and she twists the corner of her apron until she most twists it off and it ain't no bigger'n a pig's tail. At last the boob goes over to the bench, and he am so bashful dat when he set down he sets over too far, and over he goes on his haid, upsettin' the bench, gal and all. And when they try to get up, yeh, Billy, are to rush in and butt him off the stage just as the gal's father appears in the doorway. An' the boob, when he feels the butt, thinks it is the father's boots what are a-kickin' him instead of the old duffer's beard instead, and he is running her fingers through it, pettin' like, when the old fellow turns his haid to look at something and, when his haid is turned, Billy, you are to stick your head in between them and she gets your beard instead of the old man's and strokes it.

"Then she turns to kiss her lover and raises her apron just up over her mouth, and she kisses you spick on the nose. Then her apron falls from her eyes and she sees sittin' beside her two old farmers with long beards, so she gives a scream of horror, falls over backward and rolls on the grass. When she falls off the bench so quickly it lets the opposite end of the bench fly up, which upsets the old duffer and he goes sprawling on de ground.

To Kick Goat

"The gal's father rushes from the house to help the old man up, and to be nice to him for fear he won't ever come to the house again to see his daughter. As he passes you, Billy, he is to give you a kick. This makes you mad, as it naturally would, and you just plant your horns in the middle of his back and push him all over the yard, and end by givin' him a butt that lands him in the pig pen.

"How is that for a play, Master Billy?"

"Baa! Baa! Baa!" said Billy, which meant "Never you fear! I'll butt him fast enough if he kicks me!"

So Nick led Billy to the studio, where the stage was all set for just this play Nick had been telling about. And Billy went through his part just as well as any person could have done. For doing so well, they did not chain him but let him run loose in the studio yard.

"Nannie, have you seen the billboard they have put up along the road opposite our pasture?" asked the old brindle cow.

"No," answered Nannie.

"Well, come with me and I will show it to you. It will make your heart swell with pride when you see it!"

"I will come with you, but I can't see how any old billboard could make my heart swell with pride. There are few things I have any pride in, and the chief one is Billy, my own dear husband, and the next is my children and grandchildren. Toward everything else I feel but indifference."

"If that is the case, you surely will puff up with pride as big as a goose's plume. For this billboard has a picture on it showing your husband Billy taking part in a big moving picture, along with all kinds of animals. And it is to be shown a week from tonight at the Emmanent Picture Company's studio in Chicago."

Billboard

"If that is the case, then I have found out where Billy is, and I am going straight to him. This accounts for his not coming home sooner. He has been shut up in a studio and could not get away."

"Come on and see the billboard, and you will have another joyful surprise."

"Oh, tell me what it is! I am so excited over this one that another equally as great would make me tremble so I could not walk. My old heart is beating now so I can scarcely get my breath for joy, and anything else added to it would make my legs so wobbly I could not stand on them."

"Very well, then. I'll tell you as we walk along. The surprise is this: Stubby and Buton are with him in the picture! So that proves that they found him when they set out to look for him."

"Kew they would!" replied Nannie. "Anything they make up their minds to do, they generally do. I am feeling less shaky, so I can trot faster. Let's hurry over to the billboard, where I can gaze on the picture of my beloved. That is next best to seeing him."

Out of the stable yard across the creek, up a hill went Nannie and the old brindle cow as fast as they could.

Run Pretty Fast

"What is your hurry?" cackled a hen as they passed her, nearly treading on her and her brood of little chickens. When they had passed her she cackled to her husband, an inquisitive old rooster, and so it was that a gossip old hen just coming around the corner of the barn heard the news that Brindle Cow and Nannie were running as for their lives, or as if they were going to a fire, straight across the pasture.

"Yes," the brooding hen added, "and they were so excited that they nearly ran over me and my brood of little chickens when they rounded this corner of the barn."

"I wonder what is up!" crowed her husband. "I think I will go fly up on the fence and watch where they are going."

"And I think I will go up in the hayloft and fly up on one of the windows, from which high place I can see all over the country," said the gossip old hen. "And then, my dear, when I find out where they went I will come back and tell you." But she did not add "After I have spread the news through all the farmyard," for she wanted to be the first to tell any exciting news on the farm.

And thus in less than twenty minutes the story spread all over the farmyard that Nannie and the old brindle cow were seen running away from the farm after they had trampled on and killed an old hen and her brood of chicks in their mad hurry to get away.

THE FRENCHMAN CHEERED

M. le Vicomte Sorigny, a distinguished member of the French embassy, was present at the silver wedding celebration of a bishop. Leaving over to his neighbor, the vicomte asked, sotto voce:

"Tell me, mon cher, vot ess dis silvaire wedding witch ve, celebrate? I do not quite understand."

"Oh," replied Forster Blyth (the bishop's nephew), "don't you know? Why, my uncle, the bishop, and my aunt have lived together for twenty-five years without ever having been separated, and without any angry word having passed between them."

"Ah!" exclaimed the diplomat heartily, a light breaking in upon his understanding. "And now to marry her? Brava!"

"When you hear the steam-boat whistle Your paper is at the door."

NOTICE CALLING FOR BIDS ON FRANCHISE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance invites sealed proposals for the purchase of a forty year franchise to maintain, operate, repair, alter, change and remove a pipe line system for the purpose of transporting crude mineral oil and its products, water, gas, or steam, under, upon and along the various streets and alleys in the City of Torrance in accordance with that certain application of Superior Oil Company, dated August 25th, 1924, and on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Torrance, not including any streets in that portion of the City lying within the following boundary streets:

Dominguez Street and a prolongation thereof easterly to Western Avenue, Western Avenue on the east, Plaza del Amo on the south and southwest, and Madrid Avenue on the west, and not including said boundary streets.

It is the intention of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance to issue such a franchise for a period of forty years to the highest bidder in consideration of the payment of at least One Dollar (\$1.00) per rod to the City of Torrance for each line of pipe laid, and when the same is laid, and the further payment to the City of Torrance of Two Percent (2%) of the pro rata proportion of income as provided for by the statutes of the State of California.

Said bids must be accompanied by a certified check in the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to cover the costs incident to the issuing of such franchise, and a certified check in the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) as evidence of good faith, which \$500.00 is to be returned upon the completion by the franchise holder of at least one-half of the pipe line to be laid under such franchise. Checks of all unsuccessful bidders will be returned immediately.

Said bids will be opened on January 5, 1925, at 8 o'clock P.M., by the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance, in a regular meeting.

Dated, Torrance, California, November 29, 1924.

ALBERT H. BARTLETT,
City Clerk.

(Seal)

Torrance Electric Shap. Ph. 60-W.

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